

Queen Mine, Shafthouse
On Centennial Ridge
Medicine Bow National Forest
Centennial vicinity
Albany County
Wyoming

HAER No. WY-19-A

HAER
WYO,
1-CENT.V,
3-A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

Queen Mine, Shafthouse

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Location: On Centennial Ridge in Medicine Bow National Forest, approximately 2.3 miles (in a direct line) southwest of Centennial, Albany County, Wyoming

Date of Construction: c. 1924

Present Owner: United States Forest Service, Medicine Bow National Forest

Present Use: Abandoned

Significance: As part of the Queen Mine, this structure is associated with events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of our history, i.e., early 20th century mining for precious metals in Wyoming and the western United States.

This large rectangular two-room shafthouse (45 feet E-W by 16 feet N-S) is built directly over the open shaft of the Queen Mine. It also has an intact headframe built with large timbers, and cribbing filled with rock which acted as a platform for the hoisting machinery. The steel winch assembly is still in place. The shafthouse was built with round, unhewn logs, using V-notching, mud chinking and small wood slabs to keep the chinking in place. It had a gable roof covered with rough slab lumber supported by log purlins and ridgepole, but is now mostly roofless. Round nail spikes were used in construction. The vertical headframe tower supports have rotted off and no longer provides any support for the superstructure. The east room of the shafthouse leans badly to the south. This classic structure is in need of stabilization or the headframe will collapse and damage or destroy the shafthouse. A large ore dump surrounds the shafthouse on the west and north sides.

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For more information, see Queen Mine, HAER No. WY-19